

now to consider, but which are specified in the bill!

Then it provides that no person, association or corporation representing any ditch, canal or other source of water supply shall be permitted to give or offer evidence in any court in respect thereto until he, she or it has made the filing and record of statement heretofore described. That is to say, everybody is to be shut out of court on a water case until the Territorial Engineer has passed on the claim and the County Recorder has recorded it!

No court would pay any attention to such a provision if it were made, and we do not think any experienced legislator would pass it after seriously considering its purport.

The provision for giving the right to make reservoirs is also too loosely drawn, and while it may be guarded by the section securing vested rights, would in its present form leave the way open to disputes and much litigation. We are in sympathy with the purpose of the bill. We believe something ought to be done to secure its objects. We do not doubt that a Territorial Engineer of Irrigation would be of service to the community. But we must say that we do not think the bill in its present form is a safe measure for this Territory, and we hope it will be thoroughly scanned and its probable effects be duly weighed before it leaves the Council, or it certainly will not prevail in the house.

TRY THIS.

HERE is a piece of excellent advice.

"If you would increase your happiness and prolong your life, forget your neighbors' faults. Forget the slander you have ever heard. Forget the temptations. Forget the fault-finding, and give a little thought to the cause which provoked it. Forget the peculiarities of your friends, and only remember the good points that make you fond of them. Forget all personal quarrels or histories that you may have heard by accident, and which, if repeated, would seem a thousand times worse than they are. Blot out as far as possible all the disagreeables of life—they will come, but they will only grow larger when you remember them, and the constant thought of the acts of meanness, or worse still, malice, will only tend to make you more familiar with them. Obliterate everything disagreeable from yesterday, start out with a clean sheet for today, and write upon it for sweet memory's sake only those things that are lovely and lovable."

REFORM IN ENGLAND.

In the British House of Commons recently Mr. Chaplin, president of the board of agriculture, introduced a measure aiming at the wider distribution of land among the people. It is known as the agricultural holdings bill, and has already passed a first reading in the House, supported by the full strength of the Conservative majority. The scheme it embodies is that the Public Works Loan Commission be empowered to lend money at a little over three per cent. to local authorities to provide holdings for persons resident in their counties. There is a limit to the amount to be borrowed.

It must not exceed one penny in the pound of the assessed valuation of the county.

The agricultural interests of Great Britain are in a deplorable condition. Lord Derby said some time ago in a speech at Manchester that land in many districts was unsaleable, and that rents in all parts of England had fallen. The growing diminution in the production of wheat is what most alarms English statesmen. The report of the Agricultural Board for 1891 shows a decrease in acreage of wheat from the year previous of over 91,000 acres.

There is also another grievance connected with affairs in rural England. Mr. Chaplin says, in introducing his bill, that by it "the Government hoped to check the migration of rural residents to the towns by offering such increased advantages as would counteract urban attractions."

Mr. Chaplin's bill is a radical reform for Conservative England. English statesmen realize that something must be done to advance agricultural interests, and such a measure as that before the Commons seems the only feasible remedy.

GERMAN ARMY ABUSES.

THERE has been a good deal of agitation of late in Germany, owing to exposures of gross and brutal abuses in the army of that country. Some of the instances related in this connection are atrocious, exhibiting savage cruelty on the part of many of the officers. It appears that the recent stirring up of the subject, with a view to the correction of the evils has been due to Captain Muller, who resigned in order to be in a position to lay the facts before the country. Among the illustrations of German discipline given in Captain Muller's book are the following:

"Major-General von der Osten is a Prussian officer, who one evening met a party of men returning home from target practice. The General halted them, went up to a man and asked him if he had made the right number of points. Receiving an answer in the negative, General von der Osten boxed the man's ears, calling him a Swabian swine.

"Color-Sergeant Wodthe of the Third Guard Uhlan Regiment ordered all of his men to spit in a Uhlan's face because he appeared somewhat late. They all did so except one, who refused, and for this was spat in the face by the remaining men at Wodthe's orders.

"A certain captain was convicted this year of the following practice: 'In order to prevent the men from jerking their heads to the left when firing, he held a sharp penknife close to the left cheek, so that if a man did not remain perfectly rigid he stabbed himself in the face.'

"A lieutenant was convicted of the following: 'When inspecting the men's quarters at night time he often found the men uncovered, they, in consequence of the heat, having kicked the clothes off. The officer then applied his burning cigar to the men's bodies.'

The captain feels safe against being pursued in the courts on account of his expose of the wrongs existing in the German army, because he has been careful to keep strictly within the facts in each incident related. In answering a question put to him by a corres-

pondent he said: "I have the honor to inform you that all the cases I have published must necessarily remain undenied, because they are based, down to the minutest detail, on strict truth, and because, to a large extent, I witnessed them myself."

It is to be hoped that the efforts of Captain Muller to bring about a reform will be successful.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

THE question of union or separation between the two nations occupying the Scandinavian peninsula seems to be nearing a crisis. A recent dispatch from Christiania announced that the difference of opinion between the King and the Norwegian Liberal cabinet is so great that the ministers may deem it their duty to resign in a body. The cabinet holds that the question at issue—the formation of a separate foreign diplomatic corps for Norway—is one to be decided by the Norwegian government and Storting, while the King holds that it must be referred to a joint session of the Swedish and Norwegian cabinets, on the ground that it affects equally the interests of both kingdoms.

Public opinion in Sweden now seems to be aroused against the attempted dissolution of the Scandinavian Union. Recently one of the ablest statesmen of Sweden, Governor Per Axel Bergstrom, in the First Chamber of the Riksdag said, that the people of Norway had in the fifteenth century recognized the fact that the two Scandinavian countries were by nature so closely united that nothing ought to separate them. The same can be said today and will always be said. The speaker therefore thought that not only he, but every member of the Chamber and all intelligent people of the country would sanction the opinion recently expressed by a statesman that "a common minister of foreign affairs and common representatives to the foreign powers are a necessity for the existing union, and that to abolish this joint representation is not in the interest of the existence of the Union." This enunciation was received, Swedish papers say, with great applause. Not a voice was lifted against it in protest. In the Second Chamber a resolution was also passed to stand by the Swedish government in the Norwegian question. Only one dissenting vote was cast. It seems, therefore, that Sweden has taken her stand and resolved to oppose the attempts of the Norwegian radical Liberals to cut loose from the Union. In the mean time Bjornstjerne Bjornson, who may be considered the actual leader of the Norwegian Liberals, is trying to convert Sweden to his views by lecturing in the leading cities of the kingdom.

The crown prince of Sweden and Norway has recently paid a visit to St. Petersburg. That this was not done for pleasure, this time of the year, but for political purposes is reasonably certain. What his mission to the Czar was, is of course a secret, and cannot even be guessed at to any degree of certainty. However, when it is remembered that the Scandinavian Union is a political condition which was creat-